IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

JOHANNES BRUIJNS

NL 000772

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Ex.

Title:

METHOD OF ANALYZING A DATA SET COMPRISING A TUBULAR

STRUCTURE

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 3. (amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the steps e) through g) are performed only for points lying at a predetermined maximum distance from the cutting plane.
- 4. (amended) A computer program for carrying out the method as claimed in claim 1.

## REMARKS

The foregoing amendments to the claims were made solely to avoid filing the claims in the multiple dependent form so as to avoid the additional filing fee.

The claims were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights he may have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicant furthermore reserves his right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Marion, Reg. 32,266

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## APPENDIX

- 3. (amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the steps e) through g) are performed only for points lying at a predetermined maximum distance from the cutting plane.
- 4. (amended) A computer program for carrying out the method as claimed in one or more of the preceding claims claim 1.